

REMARKS

At the outset, the Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 12-19 (see ¶ 9) and the indication that claim 8, which depends from claim 1, would be allowable if suitably amended in independent form (see ¶ 9). In response to the latter indication, independent claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of now-canceled claim 8. As set forth below, claim 1 has been further amended to overcome the Section 112 rejection and is believed to now be in condition for allowance.

In ¶ 3 of the office action, claims 1, 3, 8-11, 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. In particular, in claims 1 and 29, the phrase "in contact with said web of gas-permeable thermoplastic material" was indicated to be inaccurate and indefinite. As applied to canceled claim 29, this ground of rejection is moot. In response to this ground of rejection, claim 1 has been amended to delete the phrase "in contact with".

In ¶ 5 of the office action, claims 1 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Neteler or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Neteler in view of Caggiano. In view of the amendment of claim 1 to include all limitations of allowable claim 8, the

Applicants submit that this ground of rejection is moot.

In ¶ 6 of the office action, claims 3 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over the references as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,803,090 to Castiglione et al. As applied to canceled claim 29, this ground of rejection is moot. As applied to claim 3, Applicants traverse this ground of rejection for the same reasons, set forth above, that amended claim 1 is neither anticipated by Neteler nor unpatentable over Neteler in view of Caggiano.

In ¶ 7 of the office action, claims 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over the references as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Official Notice and Worthy, Jr. (2003/0236159). The Applicants traverse this ground of rejection for the same reasons, set forth above, that amended claim 1 is neither anticipated by Neteler nor unpatentable over Neteler in view of Caggiano.

Finally, in ¶ 8 of the office action, claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Neteler in view of Castiglione. Again, this ground of rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 29.

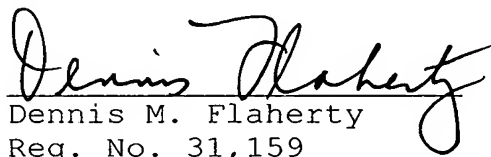
In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 1, 3, 9-19, and 30 are hereby requested. If claim 1 is allowed, then Applicants respectfully request that withdrawn claims 6 and 7, which depend from claim 1, be reinstated and allowed.

While preparing this response, the undersigned performed a search of the USPTO website and uncovered three U.S. patents relevant to plastic bags with corrosion inhibition. An IDS citing those references is being filed concurrently herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 24, 2007

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